



THE LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

VOLUME VII

NUMBER 1

Kalamazoo College Bulletin

January, 1912

PUBLISHED BY
KALAMAZOO COLLEGE

Entered at the Postoffice at Kalamazoo, Michigan, as Second-Class Matter
Under Act of Congress of July 16, 1894

The College Year 1911-1912

Those who made pledges toward the endowment fund are urged to remit immediately the amount of their first payment or, if they wish, the entire amount, to Dean H. L. Stetson, Bowen Hall, Kalamazoo, Michigan, as the college needs the interest on this new endowment to meet current expenses. All payments bring proportional amounts from the General Education Board.

This academic year has been one of the best in the history of Kalamazoo College. The committee on registration began its work of putting the new curriculum into practical operation the week before college opened. They helped new students decide on their courses of study, and old students to adjust their work to new conditions. The registration during the first week was at least twenty larger than that of the corresponding week the year before. The total registration for the first semester is one hundred eighty-six, including a large and unusually well prepared freshman class. This number has not been exceeded more than once.

The formal opening exercises, on Wednesday morning, September 20, were of unusual interest. The audience of students, alumni and friends filled the chapel and listened attentively to the significant addresses made by Dean Stetson on "The College of To-day;" by the Hon. H. B. Colman, acting chairman of the Board of Trustees, on "Factors that Make a College;" by President Dwight B. Waldo of the Western Michigan State Normal School on "The Spirit that Makes a College;" and by Superintendent S. O. Hartwell of the Kalamazoo Public Schools on "Culture Through Education."

The President of the United States, William H. Taft, honored the college by a visit on the day following. He was welcomed by college cheers and songs and by a few words from Dean Stetson. The President in his speech emphasized the necessity of higher education and paid a high tribute to the work and worth of such institutions as Kalamazoo College.

These ceremonies, covering a period of two days, mark an epoch in the history of the college. The institution seems to have new life and greater vigor. It would be difficult to give all the reasons for this, though without doubt the recent substantial increase in the endowment has much to do with it. The fact that over two thousand people representing the students, alumni, local supporters and friends at large, have shown real interest in the college has given the faculty and trustees new courage and has had a decided effect on the students.

The new course of study has proved even more satisfactory than was anticipated, although both students and teachers take more responsibility and work harder than formerly. The members of the faculty have the satisfaction of doing their work in the most effective way, and the students are enthusiastic over the enlarged opportunity for growth.

The increase in numbers and improvement in the curriculum have been accompanied by a notable development of that many sided enthusiasm and

activity known as college spirit. There has been no disorder calling for discipline.

The system of faculty advisers, embodied in the new plan, is proving to be of great service to both teachers and students, as it opens a natural way for frequent consultations and so helps to a better mutual understanding. The committee on social affairs and other faculty committees are doing valuable work of the same kind.

Among other innovations none have been of greater value than the general college lectures and the "open forum" held every Tuesday morning, and the vesper services held once a month on Sunday afternoon. Helpful lectures on educational, social and other topics have been given before the whole college by Governor Oswald D. West of Oregon, Governor R. S. Vessey of South Dakota, Mr. F. M. Hodge of Kalamazoo, Principal Jessie B. Davis of Grand Rapids, the Rev. M. P. Fikes of Detroit, the Rev. C. A. Barber of Rochester, N. Y., the Rev. Henry C. Mabie of Boston, Dean Stetson and others. At the meetings of the "open forum" free and informal discussion of such questions as student government and the honor system of conducting examinations have been held. The vesper services on Sunday afternoon have been largely attended; music has been furnished by church choirs and by the Gaynor Club, and short addresses made by the Dean.

During the first week of December the Rev. Henry C. Mabie, D.D., of Boston gave a series of valuable lectures on religious topics before the college. During the following week the Rev. Maurice P. Fikes, D. D., of Detroit gave a series of evangelistic addresses of great interest and service.

The facilities for scientific work have been greatly improved. The chemical laboratory has been thoroughly renovated, and the equipment renewed and enlarged so that now four full year courses in this department are offered. The equipment of the physical laboratory has been enlarged



3 0112 105654815

and improved so that existing courses in physics are greatly strengthened and additional courses are offered. The biological laboratory has been rearranged to make place for the new tables and apparatus required by the rapidly growing classes and the more advanced courses now offered.

The growth of the library has made it necessary to add new stacks and to furnish the room south of the library as a reference and periodical reading room.

Mr. Edward J. Mather, A. B., 1910 Lake Forest, the physical director, is very successful in directing the athletic and gymnastic activities of the students. He has developed strong foot ball and basket ball teams and will do equally well in base ball. He lives in the dormitory and acts as laboratory assistant.

It is believed the high school students who finish their school work in February should have the opportunity to enter college at that time. With this end in view, courses open to mid-year high school graduates will be offered during the coming semester, commencing Monday, February fifth.

Arrangements have been made to remodel and modernize the men's dormitory and to build a substantial gymnasium. These improvements will not only serve to preserve and build up the physical health of the students but will also make college life more attractive.

The whole matter may be summed up as follows: The college is alive. On the strong root of a conservative past a vigorous new growth has started. The college will continue to be a liberal arts college offering a liberal education, but will adapt itself to the educational and social conditions of to-day. It will work with all that is best in the public educational institutions, the high school, normal school and university. The plan is to take students with the best available preparation and by sympathetic guidance toward broad culture to give them the best foundation for real success.